

ABSTRACT

Misuses of drugs and chemicals are a great danger to human lives but most of the poisoning in our country is due to pesticides and insecticides. Cross-sectional descriptive study both quantitative through reviewing the records of 541 patients of top five poisoning at Poison Treatment Center, New Yangon General Hospital in 2017 and qualitative by key informant interview with health care providers of PTC was done. Study was conducted for epidemiology, treatment outcomes and challenges of staff while managing aspects of top five poisonings. Majority of the poisoning victims were young adults, dependent between 11-30 years of age group with preponderance of female (69%). Organophosphates poisonings were the most common (35.7%) and majority of them were agricultural workers. Paracetamol poisonings were common poisonings among the students. Approximately 55% were referral cases and 45% were self-referral cases. Vomiting was the most common symptom seen in 53.8% of patients and unconsciousness was only 6.3%. More than three-fourth of poisoning cases (78%) was suggestive of suicide and family quarrel (45.3%) was common reason for suicide. Nearly half of poisonings reached to PTC within 4 hour. More than half of patients reported with 1 to 3 days duration of hospital stay. Atropine was used in 97.9% of organophosphate poisonings and N-acetylcystine was used in 79.1% of paracetamol poisonings. The majority of top five poisonings (90%) was discharged with cure. Mortality rate was very low (3%) and mostly due to organophosphate poisonings. No expired case was reported in chloropheniramine and paracetamol poisonings. Only 3.3% of paracetamol poisonings were transferred out to liver specialties. Human and material resources were not adequate for poison wards. Health care providers of poison ward were facing so many challenges in care of poison cases. Currently hospital administrator of NYGH is trying to improve poison ward in all aspects and there will be better future. The findings of study would support to get effective management of poison patients and improve poison ward in various aspects.